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ABSTRACT

All students, even those most at risk, have dreams and hopes about their future. All prefer to be successful at school and feel joy when they learn and master something new. They are reachable at least some of the time, want to be liked and respected by teachers, and deserve the best chance that we can give them. This book offers suggestions on how to reach students, and how to give hope to students who have lost it. It first examines how hope has been lost in the classroom, and then considers how to put it back. Discipline methods that do not work are discussed; and discipline methods that will work, based on effective consequences for breaking rules and student responsibility, are explored, with specific approaches suggested. The place of competition between students and strategies for grading are reviewed. A structure is offered for motivating the hard to motivate, and changes are suggested for school policies and practices. Schools can become, with teacher commitment, the one place in which students in a throw-away society can succeed. Contains 53 references. (SLD)

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